

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 06423 261301Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 /048 W

----- 118538

O R 261215Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2998

INFO CINCEUR

CINCLANT

CINCPAC

CINCUSAREUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

USNMR SHAPE

DIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 6423

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UR

SUBJECT: DEFENSE MINISTER GRECHKO DIES

1. TASS REPORTED APRIL 26, 1976, 1233 MOSCOW TIME THAT MARSHAL ANDREY GRECHKO, MEMBER OF POLITBURO AND MINISTER OF DEFENSE, "SUDDENLY DIED TODAY."

2. NEWS OF GRECHKO'S DEATH BEGAN TO CIRCULATE IN MOSCOW AN HOUR OR SO BEFORE TASS RAN ANNOUNCEMENT. ACCORDING TO DAO SOURCES, CAUSE OF DEATH WAS A HEART ATTACK. AS OF 1300, DEATH HAD NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED ON SOVIET RADIO OR TELEVISION.

3. COMMENT. DEATHS OF SHTEMENKO, AND NOW GRECHKO, OBVIOUSLY MARK PASSING OF WWII GENERATION IN ARMED FORCES LEADERSHIP. THIS UNEXPECTED VACANCY IN POLITBURO RANKS MAY FORCE PARTY LEADERSHIP TO FACE UP TO SUCCESSION

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 06423 261301Z

PROBLEM AND COULD INDEED COMPLICATE RESOLUTION OF

THE PROBLEM BY ADDING ANOTHER VARIABLE -- GRECHKO'S
REPLACEMENT -- TO THE EQUATION. IN ANY CASE, GRECHKO'S
DEATH SERVES AS GRIM REMINDER OF THE ADVANCED AGE OF PRESENT
SENIOR LEADERSHIP GROUP.
STOESSEL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, DEATH IN OFFICE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW06423
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760157-0917
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760422/aaaaasrg.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 MAY 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <02 SEP 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEFENSE MINISTER GRECHKO DIES
TAGS: PINT, UR, (GRECHKO, ANDREY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006